

**DOE Weekly Field Memo – April 21, 2010**

**From the Vermont Department of Education:**

- [ESEA Reauthorization Public Comments Requested](#)
- [2010 Vermont State Board of Education Martha H. O'Connor Award](#)

**From the Nellie Mae Education Foundation:**

- [Nellie Mae Education Foundation Grant Opportunities for Schools](#)

**From the New England Center for School Climate & Learning:**

- [New England Conference on Bullying, School Climate & Learning](#)

---

**[ESEA Reauthorization Public Comments Requested](#)**

**Audience: All**

Vermont's congressional delegation has requested feedback regarding the Obama Administration's Blueprint for Reform, which is the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The Vermont Department of Education has generated a preliminary list of issues for Vermont. Please take a few minutes to review this document before suggesting additions or providing feedback/comments. Your voice at this time is important. It is our intent to provide as much useful information as possible on this topic as it becomes available. Visit

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/laws/nclba/nclba.html#comment> to review the documents and provide feedback. The deadline for comments is **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**.

Contact: Carol King, State Board Administrator at (802) 828-5101 or [Carol.C.King@state.vt.us](mailto:Carol.C.King@state.vt.us)

**[2010 Vermont State Board of Education Martha H. O'Connor Award](#)**

**Audience: All**

The Martha H. O'Connor Award was established by the Vermont State Board of Education in recognition of Martha H. O'Connor's extraordinary contributions and dedication to Vermont's school children throughout her leadership in public education. This award is presented to a private citizen who most closely follows the ideals embodied in Martha's tenure with the State Board of Education. All educators and friends of education are encouraged to make nominations. **Nominations are due June 1, 2010**. Visit <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/mainboard.html#recognition> for complete information.

Contact: Carol King, State Board Administrator at (802) 828-5101 or [Carol.C.King@state.vt.us](mailto:Carol.C.King@state.vt.us)

**From the Nellie Mae Education Foundation:**

**[Nellie Mae Education Foundation Grant Opportunities for Schools](#)**

**Audience: All**

The Foundation has issued a call for Letters of Interest (LOI) for our long-term, District Level Systems Change (DLSC) grants. We believe that achieving change at scale requires a systems approach at the district level and that collaboration between school and community plays a critical role in this approach. Our DLSC grants are designed with this in mind. We ask that Letters of Interest for these District Level Systems Change grants be submitted **by May 27, 2010**.

The Foundation has also issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for our Opportunity Fund. Our experience tells us that there are many organizations and schools that are already using or promoting specific student-centered strategies and tools with positive results -- but not necessarily with a system-wide focus. The Opportunity Fund is designed to support work that is producing, growing, enhancing, or testing these more narrowly defined approaches that have the potential of moving the field forward. We ask that proposals for the Opportunity Fund be submitted **by June 8, 2010**.

The Foundation will host an online bidders conference to answer your questions about the District Level Systems Change grants and the LOI process on April 20, 2010 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. A bidders conference for the Opportunity Fund RFP process will be held on April 22, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. For more information, visit the Nellie Mae Education Foundation's Web site at

<http://www.nmefdn.org/Grantmaking/Guidelines.aspx>.

Contact: Nellie Mae Education Foundation at [info@nmefdn.org](mailto:info@nmefdn.org)

**From the New England Center for School Climate & Learning:**

**New England Conference on Bullying, School Climate & Learning**

**Audience: All**

In addition to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe & Drug-Free Schools director presenting as the Keynote Speaker, the June Conference offers several workshops with over a dozen regional and national experts on bullying from the issues of cyberbullying, writing effective bully policies, applying effective strategies for reducing bullying, and school investigation techniques for school leaders.

We are offering New England schools a discounted rate to attend in School or District Teams to be best prepared to start off a new school year in Fall 2010 with current, critical, and meaningful information. Moreover, the Conference provides expert led action planning opportunities to offer guidance in putting theory into practice.

Contact: Molly Gosline at the New England Center for School Climate & Learning at (603) 505-6652 or [molly@msanh.com](mailto:molly@msanh.com).

---

**Weekly Field Memo is Online!**

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html). Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or [jill.remick@state.vt.us](mailto:jill.remick@state.vt.us).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.